

R E M A R K S

The present corrected amendment is filed in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed September 13, 2004, and contains a re-submission of the claims portion only, containing a complete listing of all the claims.

Together with receipt of the above Notice, Applicant has received an Interview Summary of the interview conducted by the undersigned, Applicant's attorney, on August 11, 2004.

Applicant's attorney contacted the Examiner by phone on September 23, 2004 in an attempt to clarify a possible approach for resolving the matters raised by the Examiner in the interview. The Examiner suggested in this phone conversation that, for reasons of his own, further contact by the undersigned be made via his Supervisor.

However, Applicant's attorney has decided to build on the achievements and understandings reached in the previous interview, and presents herein another attempt to convince the Examiner that his questions are answered by the original spec.

As for the "magic number" issue, the Examiner agrees now that "...the original claims support a magic number in a header-type separator and a magic number in a stopper-type separator". However he claims that the original disclosure and claims do not "...support a header magic number in a header-type separator and a stopper magic number in a stopper-type separator". This leads the Examiner to argue that there are "... two different types of magic number".

It is believed that the Examiner is in error in his interpretation of the magic number. It is not necessary to have two different types of magic numbers. The magic numbers can be of the same type, although they may vary in value. The distinction between the header magic number and the stopper magic number is only semantic, since in fact they are not used differently, and they both are used for queue management.

Firstly, original claims 15 and 18 contain the language of "...a magic number" for both separator and stopper respectively. In addition we find in paragraph [0031] that a stopper includes an FM -

"... wherein *F* represents a hexadecimal numerical value and *M* represents a predefined magic number."

This clearly indicates a magic number for the FM stopper. Then, in the same passage we find that -

"...The "LP" contains at least a length field, designating the amount of data to be read in the following message. Usually this is a number of bytes to be read. It further contains a predefined identification number, also known as a "magic number", which is used by the system to verify correctness of the queue management."

Hence, there is another magic number associated with the LP value. In both cases the reason for using a magic number is the same, as noted also by the Examiner. The LP and FM are clearly marked in Fig. 2 of the specification.

In light of these explanations, it is believed that there is no longer a question relating to the "magic number" issue.

Based on the Interview Summary, the Examiner's position has now become clearer regarding the invention and the specification description of how to perform a read operation using two write operations. As he states, the Examiner does not understand the scope of claim 1 from the specification.

The Examiner seems to ignore paragraph [0022] that clearly states that -

"...there is shown an apparatus and method which accomplishes the transmission of a data message from a transmitting CPU to a receiving CPU across a data bus, using a series of write operations and with no read operations being performed across the said data bus."

Hence, Applicant believes that the details appearing in claim 1, as now amended, are covered by this statement. In paragraph [0023] it is also clearly stated that -

"More specifically each CPU can write to any other CPU in the system. The present invention may also be practiced for

transfers between CPUs connected by a data bus other than the PCI type used in the exemplary embodiment."

This statement further supports Applicant's position that the transaction described in claim 1, is supported by the specification. Moreover, additional support information may be found in paragraph [0026] and the paragraphs which follow it.

As suggested by Applicant's attorney in the last phone conversation with the Examiner as referenced above, it is proposed to add, for the Examiner's consideration, the following text at the end of paragraph [0026], such that the paragraph could read as follows:

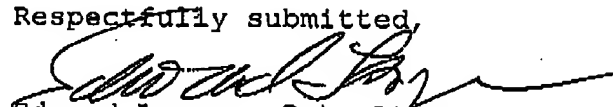
[0026] It has hitherto been the case that when writing into a cyclical queue from the transmitter to the receiver, the transmitter side required the knowledge that there is space available in the queue to perform such a write. In order to perform such a function, a read request needed to be performed, thereby checking if such space is available. However, in systems where the read operation is relatively slow, such as in a PCI bus, an alternative solution is preferable and is disclosed hereinbelow in accordance with an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. Specifically, in accordance with the disclosed invention, a transmitting CPU performs a write operation to a queue in a receiving CPU, where the receiving CPU has the capability to respond to the transmitting CPU with, for example, the space available to the transmitting CPU in the receiving CPU, by performing another write operation from the receiving CPU to the transmitting CPU, thereby effectively achieving a read operation by a sequence of two write operations.

It is the Applicant's position that this amended paragraph is well-based on the original disclosure, and therefore does not constitute new matter. Since this amended paragraph serves to clarify the disclosure, but not add to it, it is respectfully requested that the proposed amendment in this paragraph be approved in advance.

It is believed that this amendment to the specification, together with the clarifications outlined above, resolves the outstanding issues in the current prosecution.

In view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration of the matters is earnestly requested, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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